Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal



Climate change, flooding, urbanisation and leptospirosis: Fuelling the fire?

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Year: 2010

Journal: Transactions of The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. 104 (10):

631-638

Abstract:

Flooding and heavy rainfall have been associated with numerous outbreaks of leptospirosis around the world. With global climate change, extreme weather events such as cyclones and floods are expected to occur with increasing frequency and greater intensity and may potentially result in an upsurge in the disease incidence as well as the magnitude of leptospirosis outbreaks. In this paper, we examine mechanisms by which climate change can affect various ecological factors that are likely to drive an increase in the overall incidence as well as the frequency of outbreaks of leptospirosis. We will discuss the geographical areas that are most likely to be at risk of an increase in leptospirosis disease burden owing to the coexistence of climate change hazard risk, environmental drivers of leptospirosis outbreaks, local socioeconomic circumstances, and social and demographic trends. To reduce this disease burden, enhanced surveillance and further research is required to understand the environmental drivers of infection, to build capacity in emergency response and to promote community adaptation to a changing climate.

Source: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.trstmh.2010.07.002

Resource Description

Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: M

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Researcher

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones

Temperature: Extreme Heat

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Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal, Urban

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): ☑

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: Leptospirosis

Intervention: M

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: M

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

Resource Type: M

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

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Resilience: M

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: M

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content